

Zeal for New Zealand's mega-Manukau project

"By demonstrating engineering excellence, best world practice and supreme fitness for purpose, Project Manukau had that something special that the judges were looking for," said Bas Walker, chief judge for the New Zealand Engineering Excellence Awards, which were presented in November in Wellington.

Celebrating the country's top engineering projects, the awards event recognized Project Manukau with the Utilities

and Networks Award, as well as the overall Supreme Award for Engineering Excellence. The Supreme Award honors the project deemed to be the best in all award categories, including building and construction, utilities, roads, information and communications, mechanical and electrical, and sustainability.

Manukau was a five-year project that significantly upgraded the existing sewerage treatment plant to meet the needs of the three major cities of Auckland, Manukau and Waitakere. As such, it is one of the largest environmental restoration and wastewater treatment plant construction contracts in the Southern Hemisphere.

Manukau Wastewater Services Ltd., a consortium of CH2M BECA, Fletcher Construction, Bovis Lend Lease Pty. and New Zealand Water Services, provided the design, construction and startup aspects of the project.

"This is a great result for all the Manukau partners, and especially for CH2M BECA," said Garry Macdonald, project director for Beca Infrastructure, Ltd. "We had a great night all around and were well represented with several category wins!"

Significant to the project was the reclamation of 500 hectares (two square miles) of intertidal shoreline near the treatment plant. The integration of a coastal walkway, lookouts and native revegetation created a significant, passive recreational and culturally acceptable asset for the area. Additionally, the return of migratory bird species to the area resulted in the creation of an excellent bird-watching sanctuary. Provided on time and within budget, Project Manukau is an excellent example of engineering at its best. UN Ltd



Project Manukau demonstrated engineering excellence in all award categories to earn the overall Supreme Award.

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